

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-8, as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A reciprocating piston machine comprising at least one working membrane (1) and/or at least one auxiliary membrane made from an elastomeric material and having an oscillating drive, engaging the membrane (1) in a central area (3), with a deformable membrane area (M) being provided between the central area (3) of the membrane (1) and a circumferential edge area (5) clamped in the reciprocating piston machine and deforming during the oscillating pumping movement, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a different geometrical ~~adjustment~~ configuration of the working membrane and/or the auxiliary membrane (1), caused by the drive, to mounting points provided in the central area and at the circumferential edge area is developed by two merging curves, which define a shape of the membrane.

2. (Currently amended) A reciprocating piston machine ~~according to the preamble of claim 1, particularly according to claim 1,~~ wherein a membrane cross-section of the working membrane and/or auxiliary membrane is sized in the deformable membrane area (M), such that during pumping movement almost identical tension and/or elastic deformations develop in an upper surface membrane zone of the deformable membrane area (M).

3. (Currently amended) A reciprocating piston machine ~~according to the preamble of claim 1, particularly according to claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~ wherein the working membrane and/or auxiliary membrane has at least two cantilever-shaped annular areas (7, 8) in the deformable membrane area (M), merging in a cross-sectional reduction (9) of the membrane (1), and ~~[[that]]~~ the cross-section of the membrane, starting from the cross-sectional reduction, enlarges in each of the annular areas (7, 8).

4. (Currently amended) A reciprocating piston machine according to ~~one of claims 1 through 3~~ claim 3, characterized in ~~that~~ wherein the cross-section of the membrane at least partially enlarges linearly in the annular areas (7, 8).

5. (Currently amended) A reciprocating piston machine according to ~~one of claims 1 through 4~~ claim 3, characterized in ~~that~~ wherein the cross-sectional reduction (9) ranges from 0.6 to 0.8 in reference to a diameter of the deformable membrane area (M).

6. (Currently amended) A reciprocating piston machine according to ~~one of claims 1 through 5~~ claim 1, characterized in ~~that~~ wherein the reciprocating piston machine ~~is embodied as~~ comprises a membrane pump.

7. (Currently amended) A reciprocating piston machine according to ~~one of claims 1 through 6~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein the working membrane of the membrane pump is ~~embodied as~~ a molded membrane or a flat membrane.

8. (Currently amended) A working membrane or auxiliary membrane for a reciprocating piston machine, which is designed according to ~~one of claims 1 through 7~~ claim 1.